



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 515

February Session, 2006

House Bill No. 5114

House of Representatives, April 13, 2006

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. MERRILL of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH CANCER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Social
2 Services, to the extent permitted by federal law, shall take such action
3 as may be necessary to amend the Medicaid state plan to provide
4 coverage without prior authorization for each child diagnosed with
5 cancer on or after January 1, 2000, who is covered under the HUSKY
6 Plan, Part A or Part B, for neuropsychological testing ordered by a
7 licensed physician, to assess the extent of any cognitive or
8 developmental delays in such child due to chemotherapy or radiation
9 treatment.

10 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) Each individual health
11 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in
12 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general
13 statutes delivered, issued for delivery, amended, renewed or
14 continued in this state on or after October 1, 2006, shall provide

15 coverage without prior authorization for each child diagnosed with
 16 cancer on or after January 1, 2000, for neuropsychological testing
 17 ordered by a licensed physician, to assess the extent of any cognitive or
 18 developmental delays in such child due to chemotherapy or radiation
 19 treatment.

20 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) Each group health insurance
 21 policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2),
 22 (4), (11) and (12) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes delivered,
 23 issued for delivery, amended, renewed or continued in this state on or
 24 after October 1, 2006, shall provide coverage without prior
 25 authorization for each child diagnosed with cancer on or after January
 26 1, 2000, for neuropsychological testing ordered by a licensed physician,
 27 to assess the extent of any cognitive or developmental delays in such
 28 child due to chemotherapy or radiation treatment.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section

PH Joint Favorable C/R

APP

APP Joint Favorable

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
Department of Social Services	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill requires DSS to amend the Medicaid state plan to provide coverage for neuropsychological testing without prior authorization for certain children undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment. Due to the small number of potential children in the Medicaid and HUSKY program who would likely be subject to this testing; only minimal cost is anticipated.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5114*****AN ACT CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH CANCER.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires individual and group health insurance policies to provide coverage for neuropsychological testing of children diagnosed with cancer after December 31, 1999. The mandate applies to plans delivered, issued for delivery, amended, renewed, or continued in the state on and after October 1, 2006. The bill also requires the social services commissioner to amend the state's Medicaid plan to provide this coverage under HUSKY A and B. (HUSKY B is provided under the State Children's Health Insurance Program, not Medicaid.)

Under the bill, insurers and the HUSKY plans must cover tests a licensed physician orders to assess the extent chemotherapy or radiation treatment have caused the child to have cognitive or developmental delays. They may not require prior authorization for the tests.

The bill does not define "child." The law requires individual and group health insurance policies that cover dependents to do so through age 18 and up to age 23 if they are full-time students at an accredited school. HUSKY A and B cover children through age 18.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2006, except the HUSKY provision, which is effective on passage.

BACKGROUND***HUSKY Coverage of Neuropsychological Tests***

The Department of Social Services reports that both HUSKY A and

B currently cover neuropsychological testing that has received prior authorization.

Related Bill

sSB 409 (File 34) requires individual and group health insurance policies that cover dependents to cover them until they turn age 26.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/20/2006)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 50 Nay 0 (03/31/2006)